

HOW'NI-KAN

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

Vol. 17, No. 10

Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe

October, 1995

Tribe's newest enterprise already sewing up a storm

FireLake Designs, the tribe's newest enterprise, has things humming in the back of the museum gift shop. The tribe recently purchased automated embroidery equipment when a Shawnee firm went out of business and has been busy ever since embroidering the tribal logo on shirts, caps, coveralls and other items for other tribal enterprises.

Once caught up on in-house items, FireLake Designs will begin taking orders from the public. Esther Lowden, who is supervising the new operation, said she has already had several contacts from other tribes and area schools who heard about the enterprise by word of mouth.

Operating the computer-aided embroidery equipment are Lavan Sanders and Ginger Schmidkofler, who is learning



the system.

"We will even be able to embroider on leather," said Lowden. Several designs are already in the computer, including a traditional Potawatomi floral design that will be used on shawls. The equip-

ment can also be used to monogram.

Prices are determined by the detail of the artwork and the number of stitches, Lowden said. Some items are already available in the museum gift shop at competitive prices.



Ginger Schmidkofler, Lavan Sanders Embroider Coveralls For Tribal Store

Regional Councils: A decade of taking the tribe to the people

First Regional Council a success in Denver

There were more than 70 witnesses to "history in the making" when the Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe conducted its first regional Council meeting ever held outside the state of Oklahoma on August 31, 1985, in Denver, Colorado.

Four members of the Business Committee and all three members of the Tribal Grievance Committee attended the five hour historic gathering ... that featured a slide show, presentations on the new constitution, tribal operations and genealogical research, dinner and a question and answer session.

Many Coloradans attending the meeting voiced surprise over the number of tribal members in their area ... "It was wonderful," enthused Tribal Chairman John Barrett. "It was, in the truest sense of the words, a family reunion."

HowNiKan, Vol. 7, No. 8, 1985

The Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe celebrated a decade of taking the government to the people at the Denver Regional Council Oct. 7 at The Fort. One hundred and twenty-five tribal members were present for what Deputy Tribal Administrator Bob Trousdale termed "a very good meeting" featuring a new and improved slide show.

New Regional Representative Penny Bishop welcomed tribal members and visiting tribal officials from Shawnee with a program that included a dance demon-

stration and presentation of a plaque commemorating the 10th anniversary of Potawatomi Regional Councils. Bishop also prepared a program which included "Tribal Trivia" and other entertaining information.

That first Regional Council in 1985 came just two months after John A. "Rocky" Barrett was first elected to the tribe's top position. In a hard-fought and often bitter campaign, Barrett promised to "take the tribe to the

Please turn to page 16

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TRIBAL TRACTS

FALL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The following students have received Tribal Scholarships for Fall enrollment:

Glenda K. Awtrey
 Jason Robert Kilby
 Helen F. Kusek
 Mary Clarice Melot
 Yvette M. Munoz
 Linda L. Nelson
 Terri J. Copeland
 Jama D. Cloke
 Kandace Comeaux
 Jera G. Collins
 Roberta K. Dale
 Doris L. Aranda
 Karol J. Feldhake
 Noel D. Greenwalt
 Darrell D. Heck, Jr.
 Julie Darlene Hogan
 JoAnna Gail Howard
 Zandra Showalter
 Karen E. Smith
 Echo Tescier
 Stanley Williams
 Connie D. Wingfield
 Timothy J. Pettus
 Richard Scott Walker
 Stacey Lynne Smith
 Robert F. Negahnquet
 Sherry L. Miller
 Shelly Hobia
 Deborah A. Fallis
 Alice C. Bute
 Kathy D. Easley
 Sharon S. Tate
 David C. Maddux
 Robin M. Taylor
 Patrice M. Crowley
 Daytona Beach Community College for Lisa Johnson

Deadline for Spring enrollment is December 15. Any member who is enrolled after the effective date of this amendment (April, 1989), who was not otherwise eligible for enrollment, shall not be eligible to participate in the scholarship program which was developed from Judgment Funds awarded in Dockets 15-K, 29-J, 217, 15-M, 29-K, and 146.



Memorial Dance

The Oklahoma Institute of Indian Heritage selected Brenda Kennedy Grummer, member of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe of Oklahoma, as the featured artist of the "Spirit of the People 95" auction and Fall Fest held Sept. 9 at the Will Rogers Center, 4322 North Western in Oklahoma City. The "Spirit of the People 95" art auction was a project of the Oklahoma Institute of Indian Heritage, a 30 tribe consortium promoting Oklahoma Indian artists and tourism. Brenda Kennedy Grummer of Yukon, Oklahoma, designed the art work called "Memorial Dance," a memorial to the April 19 bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City. Wallace E. Coffey, Chairman of the Institute and Chairman of the Comanche Tribe of Oklahoma said, "The art reflects what the Indian people feel about the bombing and our feelings for all the people who were affected by the tragedy". The original piece was in the auction and was featured on the Fall Fest 95 poster and T-shirts.

HOW·NI·KAN

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

The HowNiKan is published by the Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe with offices at 1901 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801.

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All letters and submissions become the property of the HowNiKan. Editorials and letters are limited to 500 words and must contain a traceable address.

All correspondence should be directed to HowNiKan, 1901 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Ok. 74801. Address changes should be sent to Potawatomi Tribal Rolls, 1901 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Ok. 74801.

Citizen Band Potawatomi Business Committee
 Chairman - John A. "Rocky" Barrett Jr.
 Vice Chairman - Linda Capps
 Sec./Treasurer - Bob F. Davis
 Committeeman - Hilton Melot
 Committeeman - Jerry P. Motley

HowNIKan Editor: Gloria Trotter
 Tribal Administrator: J.D. Colbert

Toll-Free Number: 1-800-880-9880

Tribal member returns to Oregon legislature

County commissioners in four northwestern Oregon counties recently appointed two people, including a tribal member, to two Oregon House seats.

Commissioners from Clatsop and Columbia Counties appointed former State Representative Jackie Taylor to represent House District 1 and serve the unexpired term of Rep. Tony Federici, who passed away in August. Taylor, a resident of Astoria, represented house District 3 for one term in 1991-92 and served in the 1991 legislature. The district changed dramatically in the 1991 redistricting and Taylor decided not to run for re-election. Taylor is a member of the Potawatomi tribe and has the distinction of being the first Native American elected to the state legislature.

Commissioners appointed State Representative Tim Josi to complete the remainder of his term representing House District 2. Josi resigned the seat in early July to move to Hawaii. However, his plans changed and he asked the commissioners to reinstate him.

Both appointments were welcomed by House Democratic leader Peter Courtney. "I am very happy the commissioners chose these two veterans," said Courtney. "It is very fortunate we

have a proven leader like Jackie Taylor to fill out Tony Federici's term. Jackie was a strong and able representative in 1991 and I look forward to serving with her in the upcoming special session and in the 1997 Legislature."

Both have announced their intentions to seek election in 1996.

Taylor is a former small business owner; she operated Johnson Drug Store in Warrenton. She is a former director of the Clatsop County Association for Retarded Citizens and had been employed as Director of Volunteer Ser-

vices, Region III, for the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. She has served on the Greater Astoria Area Chamber of Commerce Executive board, the City of Astoria Civil Service Commission, the Warrenton Hammond Community Block Grant Loan Board and the Columbia River Bicentennial Commission. Taylor graduated from Boise State University with a bachelor's degree in social work.

She was sworn in as the new State Representative Oc. 5 in the House chambers at the State Capitol.

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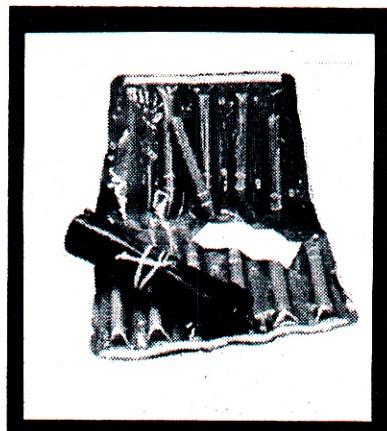
Potawatomi Tribal Store

The Tribal Store, in Tecumseh, now specializes in products that appeal to the smoking connoisseur. Superb cigars, aromatic pipe tobacco, loose cigarette tobacco and a magnificent array of accessories. This should become your gift headquarters for Christmas '95 as the prices are 40 % below retail.

Surprise your friends, family or treat yourself to a gift basket...made to order. Take advantage of the selection and our ability to special order for your smoking preference.



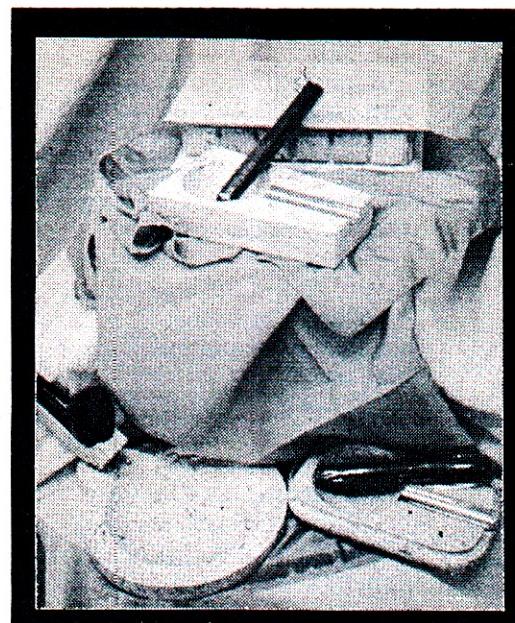
Handmade Boswell Pipes
Lucite or Wood Styles-\$25.95 to \$40.50



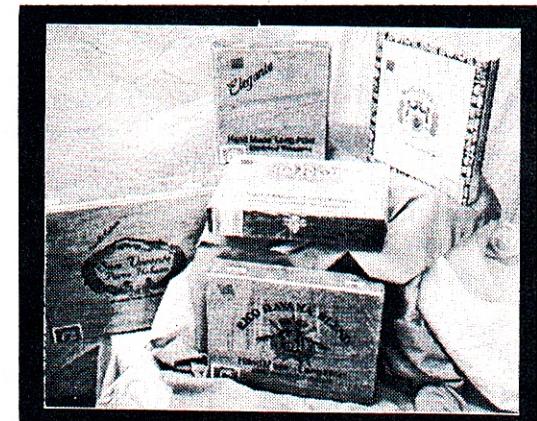
Cigar Novelties
Travel Case-\$20.00



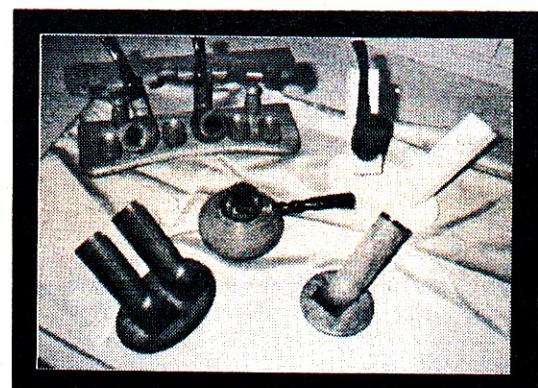
Personal Cigar Accessories
Variety of All Leather Cigar Cases-\$30.00 to \$38.00
Tempered Steel Cigar Snipper-\$10.00
Polished Silver Cigar Scissors-\$42.00
Gold Springload Snipper-\$22.00



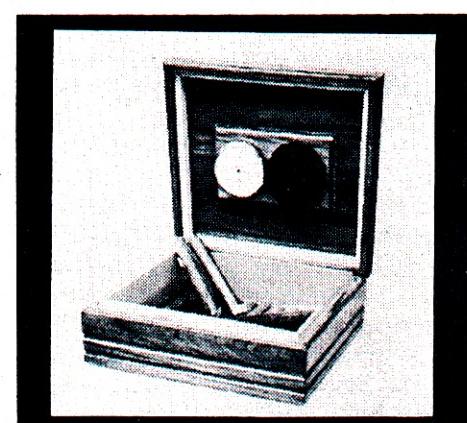
Beautiful Mexican Marble
Marble Cigar Case-\$74.40
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TRIBAL TRACTS

Child care help available to eligible tribal members

The Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribal Child Care Block Grant Program has funds available to assist eligible tribal members in paying the cost of day care and before and after school care.

To be eligible the parent must be:

- 1) either a Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribal member or employee
- 2) working, in training or enrolled in an education program
- 3) reside within the state of Oklahoma
- 4) meet eligibility requirements based on family size and income

The child(ren) must be:

- 1) in need of day care assistance
- 2) under the age of 13; or if a special needs child or in need of protective services, under the age of 18

If you have questions or would like to see if you meet the eligibility requirements, please call the Child Care Block Grant Office at (405) 275-3121 or stop by the office located in the Health Services Department of the Tribe located on Hardesty Road.

And more help for parents Nov. 14

Special help for parents — and grandparents — in the Pottawatomie County area will be available Nov. 14 at Shawnee High School.

"Parent University" will offer help on college finances, special education, sports injuries, teenagers, pre-schoolers and many other topics of interest to parents of all ages. Grandparents are also welcome, and child care will be provided.

The session is set for 6:30-8:30 p.m. Nov. 14 at Shawnee High. It is sponsored by Shawnee Public Schools, Oklahoma Baptist University and professional teacher groups in the Shawnee area.

Walking on ...

Leroy Adam Skinner, Jr.

Leroy A. Skinner, Jr., passed from this life September 6, 1995, in his home near Iowa Park, Texas, at the age 68. He was born March 19, 1927, (according to his birth certificate), in Wanette, Oklahoma to Leroy A. and Georgia A. (Dike) Skinner, Sr. He grew up and was educated at Wanette. He entered the United States Army Air Corp in 1944 and was discharged in 1947. He and Evelyn LaVerne Renfro were married on March 20, 1948, at Wanette.

He retired from the United States Department of Agriculture in 1987, where he had worked as a Code Enforcement Officer. He was a Methodist, having been baptized in 1938.

Surviving are his wife, two sons and daughter-in-law, James and Darlene of Wichita Falls, Texas, and Howard and April of Fullerton, California; four grandchildren, Ginger Harrill of Wichita Falls, Jeffrey Skinner of Wichita Falls, and Michael and Martin Skinner of Fullerton; two great-granddaughters, Katie Harrill and Erica Skinner of Wichita Falls, also numerous cousins. He was

preceded in death by his parents and a sister Kathryn Ann.

Burial was in Veterans Garden, Crestview Memorial Park, Wichita Falls, Texas, under the directions of Owens and Brumley Funeral Home.

Harold L. Hampton

Retired businessman Harold L. Hampton died Oct. 4, 1995, at his Shawnee home. He was 58.

He was born Sept. 7, 1937, in Wanette to Lloyd and Thelma (Melot) Hampton. He attended school in California. He served in the U.S. Navy aboard the U.S.S. Ranger from 1954 to 1956.

Hampton managed convenience stores in Shawnee until retiring in 1998. He married Chris Kutzma on Dec. 28, 1988, in Norman.

He was a member of Oklahoma Pigeon Association and National Pigeon Association.

Surviving are his wife Chris of the home; mother, Thelma Louise Hampton, Shawnee; son Brian Hampton, Shawnee; daughters and sons-in-law,



Lowden Among Bulldogs

Southwestern Oklahoma State University's 1995 football team, including tribal member Junior Lowden (left end of back row), opened the 1995 season Sept. 9 at the University of Central Oklahoma. There are 83 players on this year's team coached by 10th-year coach Paul Sharp. Lowden, who is being scouted by several professional teams, is the son of museum curator Esther Lowden and her husband Nobbie. A tight end, Lowden was an All-American three years ago then missed the next season due to an injury. He returned to play last year and is finishing out his career at SW this season. He is a graduate of Tecumseh High School.

Tammie and David Reschke, Kimmie and Ken Harding, all of California; Tina and James Knoles, Shawnee; daughters Stacey Hampton, Julie Hampton, Rebecca Gansel, all of California; sister and brother-in-law, Anna Louise and Cecil Turnbow, Chickasha; 14 grandchildren and many other relatives.

His father, Lloyd Hampton, preceded him in death in 1994. Services were Oct. 6 at Emmanuel Baptist Church, McLoud, with the Rev. LeRoy Rice officiating. Burial was in Wanette Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of Roesch Funeral Chapel.

Frankie Bourbonnais Allison

Frankie Bourbonnais Allison passed away May 18, 1995. She was born March 14, 1915, to Wade and Ida (Belcher) Bourbonnais.

Frankie was a resident of Dale, Oklahoma, and later moved to Indianapolis, Indiana. She was a Catholic homemaker.

Surviving are her husband Leo Allison, Sr.; two sons and

daughters-in-law, Leo Allison Jr. and Barbara of Indianapolis; Donald Allison and Jan of Florida; a sister and brother-in-law, Opal and Ray Sullivan of Shawnee; two nieces, Joyce Abel of Shawnee, Oklahoma, and Sherri McCorkle of Greenwood, Arkansas; a nephew, Larry Sullivan of Shawnee; and 8 grandchildren.

Barney Burdett McGuire

Barney Burdett McGuire, born February 8, 1905, in the Oklahoma Territory, died October 7, 1995, Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was the son of Barney Marvin McGuire and Martha Columbia Lee McGuire and was proceeded in death by his beloved wife, Cleo Waymire McGuire; sisters, Ola Onieta Robison, Tulsa, and Vineta Ione "Cricket" Leggett, Okmulgee; one brother, Thurmon Goldie McGuire, Wewoka; nephews Thurmon Owen McGuire, Tulsa, and Clifford Burkhardt, Wewoka, Oklahoma.

He is also survived by nieces Marion Wall, Sharon Williams and Linda Tippit, Sand Springs; Carolyn

Wilkinson, Dallas, Texas; and nephew Jerry Robison, Houston, Texas.

Mr. McGuire assisted in the rearing of his nieces and nephews. He provided the loving and care and discipline necessary to provide them with the tools for success in their professional and personal lives. He worked at many professions and trades throughout his lifetime. "Uncle Barney" will be as deeply missed, as he was loved by his 14 grand-and 20 great-grandnieces and nephews.

He and his family resided in Stringtown, Tecumseh and Wewoka areas of Oklahoma before moving to Tulsa where he lived for many years. In recent years he lived in Tulsa with his grand-niece Kelly Wall and her family.

Barney loved his fellow man and deeply believed life was meant to be spent helping others, which he tried to do every day of his life.

Services were held Tuesday, October 10, at Bixby Cemetery Chapel under the direction of Moores Southlawn Chapel. Internment was in Bixby Cemetery.

Agriculture

Realty

Higher Education

BIA programs: contracting with the government

By Gloria Trotter

In a quiet corner of the tribal administration building, seldom seen or visited by tribal members, Ed Herndon's BIA programs staff oversees hundreds of thousands of dollars in government contracts and works daily to protect the interests of tribal members.

In less than seven years since the tribe began contracting directly with the federal government for those programs which used to be administered by BIA personnel, Herndon has built a staff of experts in real estate, agriculture, higher education, and a variety of other areas crucial to the well-being of tribal members.

It was Herndon's challenge to monitor the BIA contracts while building a staff to help him. "I think we were successful doing that the first year," he said. "We probably have the best contract program in Western Oklahoma."

The contract staff officially oversees a multitude of federal contracts, including higher education, realty, land operations, appraisals, adult vocational training and direct employment, tribal court, law enforcement, social services, and tribal government services. In practice, those programs are scattered all over the tribal complex and many have their own directors.

On a day-to-day basis, Herndon's office administers the land operations, realty, higher education, and adult vocational programs while monitoring expenditures for the other contract programs. "We've consolidated all the contracts except law enforcement and social services," he said, "in a contract called CTGP (consolidated tribal government programs)." That makes the accounting end of things much easier, he noted.

Herndon works closely with Becky Carter in accounting, and sings her praises. "Becky does an outstanding job in accounting," he said. "No unallowable costs get by her."

Each of Herndon's staff members has an area of expertise. Brian Eddleman handles land operations,

including surface leasing and farming and grazing rights on restricted Indian land. He is responsible for lease compliance, and holds a lease sale once a year. "He has probably quadrupled the number of leases since we took over from the BIA," said Herndon. Property handled through that office is usually that which is owned by several tribal members; "we work on behalf of those owners," Herndon noted. Eddleman also handles environmental work when the tribe buys land.

Dovie Sheridan also handles leases and realty, but primarily in the oil and gas end of things. She also deals with business leases and right of way acquisition, among other things, and "handles the paperwork when the tribe buys property," Herndon said. She makes sure that there are current appraisals on the property, and that bids meet those appraisals. Donna Allen assists Sheridan with those duties, and they and everyone else on the staff help when there are probate matters to handle.

Carol Levi is in charge of the adult vocational education program, which provides living allowances and tuition expenses for qualified tribal members at trade and specialized schools. "That program depends on where you live," Herndon noted. "You have to be in the service area."

Herndon's office also handles the higher education program, which until recently was able to help virtually every tribal member who asked with col-

lege expenses. "This is the first year J.D. (Colbert) and Becky the other day since I've been here that we actually had to turn down one or two," he said. "The program is based on financial need, determined by a scale developed by Herndon. He also oversees tribal investments which fund scholarships, prosthetics and the annual budget voted on each year by the tribe.

Helping out with all these program areas is clerk Patsy Cooper.

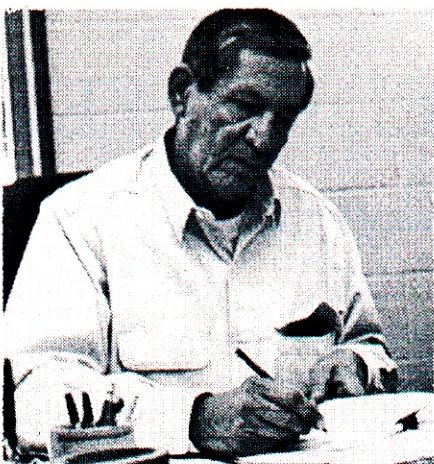
There are lots of other duties that crop up, too, like helping to prepare resolutions and plan for secretarial elections, a project Herndon is working on now. But his biggest challenge at the moment is looking ahead to the effects of the anticipated drop in funding from the national level. The good news is that because of its emphasis on and success with tribal enterprises, the Citizen Band Potawatomi will weather the financial storm much better than many other tribes.

"I met with (Tribal Administrator)



Seated: Herndon; Standing From Left, Sheridan, Allen, Eddleman, Cooper

After that, "there may be belt-tightening down the road," Herndon said. "We may be forced to consolidate some programs, and have some people assume additional duties." In the meantime, Herndon was preparing to leave for the National Congress of American Indians to get the latest information. "They're the number one lobbying group," he said. And there are still more programs out there, he pointed out, that the tribe can check into as it continues to build self-sufficiency through enterprises while claiming its share of federal funds.



Ed Herndon: BIA career pays off for tribe

Ed Herndon literally grew up in tribal service and brought a wealth of experience and knowledge with him when he joined the staff in 1989.

Born and raised in the Southeast Oklahoma town of Valiant, Herndon is a graduate of Wyandotte High School and a 1964 graduate of Northeastern State University at Talequah. His mother was "career BIA," said Ed, in teaching and school administration.

Herndon went to work for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1968, working in the counseling department at Riverside Indian School. Later he worked a year for the State of Oklahoma in the Caddo County welfare department but then rejoined the BIA to work in the Anadarko Area office in adult vocational training.

He came to the Shawnee Agency in 1975 to head up tribal government

services and remained in that position until the individual tribes began to contract the federal programs directly. Herndon came to work for the Citizen Band Potawatomi tribe "on the first day of 1989" as a sort of shared employee; he continues to earn his federal employment benefits but is supervised by the tribe.

Herndon is married and has two children. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, hunting and sports events.



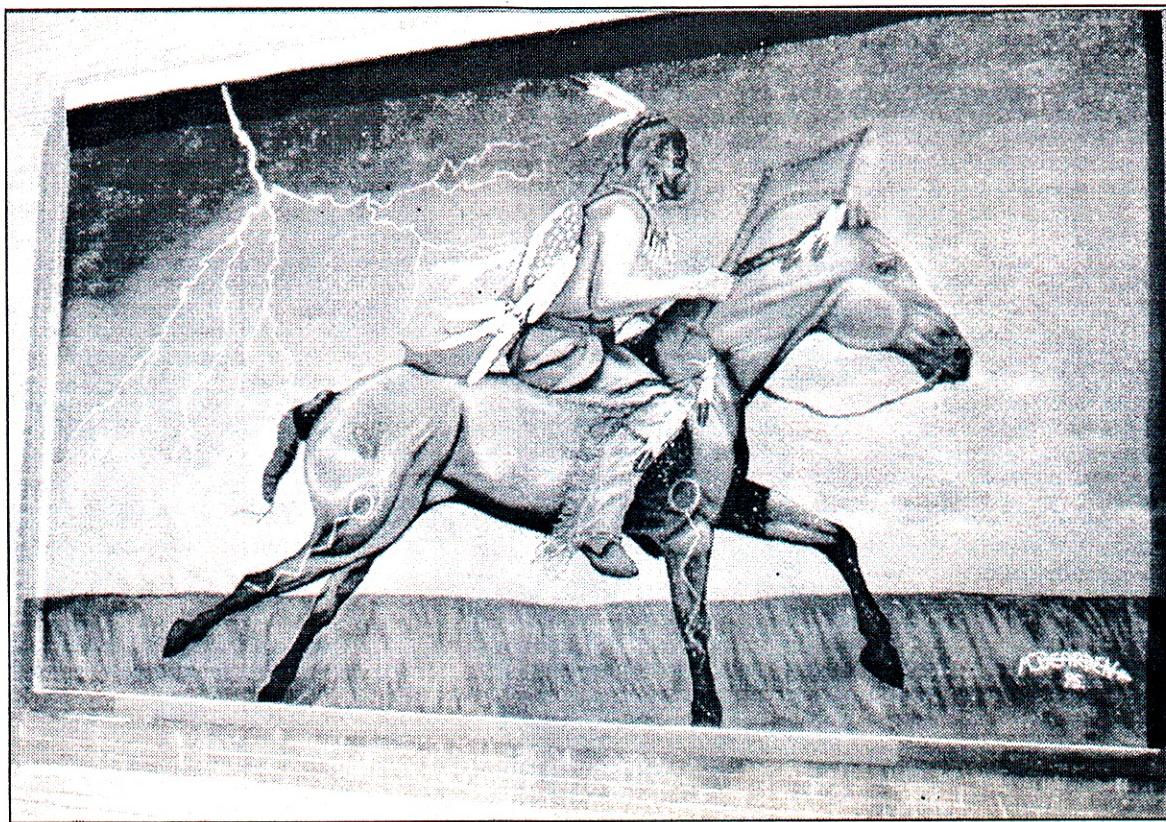
IN YOUR OPINION

Tribal member completes mural in downtown Hominy

To Whom It May Concern,

Just wanted to let you guys know about the recent mural I just finished in my hometown of Hominy. It was painted downtown across from the city fire department on the Carter Trophy building. The mural took me approximately four weeks to complete working mostly in the evenings. The size is approximately 12 feet x 25 feet, and was painted with enamel based paint. The subject matter is a highly honored Osage Warrior going into battle. I myself, having Potawatomi, Blackfoot, and Kickapoo blood, have studied the North American Tribes extensively. But I needed help from Osage Everett Waller to depict the traditional attire correctly.

I'm 26 years old and have a bachelor's degree in commercial art from Northeastern State in Tahlequah. I have also studied at The Institution of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, and at Okmulgee Tech. Currently I'm working for my father's oilfield business in Hominy. My artwork can be purchased at the "Tallgrass Prairie Gallery" in Hominy (918) 885-6488, and



also at "Southwest Designs" in New Orleans (504) 522-4345. Or call me! Matt Bearden (918) 885-6675.

My mother Mary Bearden is from the Bruno family, and a guy named Jim Thorpe is a

distant relative. If the photograph I sent you isn't printable please contact me and I'll send some more. By the way I'm not the same guy who has painted the other murals in Hominy. Also, Gary Lee, the owner of

the "Tallgrass Prairie Gallery" in Hominy, is sponsoring a mural contest. Any artists interested should contact him or me at the numbers given.

Thanks,

Matt Bearden
Hominy, Oklahoma

Teenager reflects on triumphs of Native Americans

Dear Editor,

Through the Seasons.

You stomped across our Native Americans because we were between you and the riches you sought. You called us mongrels, heathens, and savages. It seems strange that you endlessly condemn Hitler's

atrocities against the Jews, yet cannot recognize and feel remorse for your own atrocities against the American Indian. The long, harsh winter trails you made our peoples walk, those were our death camps; some tribes lost tens of thousands. You made war against

us, took our lands; those were your firing squads, and we were your victims. You are the Hitlers of America!

The Americas once belonged to us, and where we once lived, it is now hard to find a decent home. Our reservations are crowded because they are so small. You thought the lands you once gave us were too poor for farming, but we survived on them. You thought they were worthless in minerals, but even when oil was discovered on these lands, you stole it from us. You farm our plains to fill your already overstuffed bellies. You cut our forests for lumber to build you expensive houses. You slaughtered our herds of buffalo, and left us without food and clothing. You refuse to share the wealth you have accumulated at our expense. Our people have triumphed through all and all we ask is an apology and the respect we deserve.

Flanagan turns down court appointment

Oklahoma City attorney Marian Flanagan, elected in June to a post on the tribal Grievance Committee and only a few weeks later offered a seat on the tribal Supreme Court, has decided to remain on the Grievance Committee.

Flanagan won election to the Grievance Committee in the June election and was sworn into office that day. A few weeks later, the Business Committee voted to offer her an appointment to a vacant seat on Supreme Court. However, Flanagan has decided not to accept that appointment.

"It was a very tough decision," she said. "I thought about it long and hard." Noting that it is "a great honor" to be offered the judicial post, she said that she understood that there has been little activity for the Supreme Court in recent years. "I wanted to be more involved and learn more about the tribe," Flanagan said. "So I decided to stay on the Grievance Committee."

Flanagan, who has her own law practice specializing in employment law, said she thought and prayed about the choice for a long time but then made the decision and is comfortable with it.

Tony Morton, 15
Son of Marilyn Morton
Both Tribal Members
Shawnee, Oklahoma

A letter of thanks

To The Editor:

I am writing to thank you and your staff for assisting me with my education.

You contributed over \$1200 to my education and made me see what the Potawatomi Indian Tribe is all about, helping each other in times of need. During my father's strike from Caterpillar, the tribe was there to assist me with education expenses which let me concentrate more on learning.

Your help led me to where I am now. I graduated from Northern Illinois University two months ago, with a Bachelor of Science degree. My major is Operations Management and Information Systems and my minor is Economics. After graduation, I found a job with an insurance company whose home office is located in downtown Peoria, Illinois. My title is User Support Administrator. I assist the company's employees with computer problems or direct their problem to fellow co-workers.

With my computer knowledge, I also created a menu for my uncle's new restaurant which proudly reads: "Dibler's Fine Food and Lounge" (Keepers of the Place of the Fire)

Thank you again and please let me know if I can assist you in the future.

Sincerely,

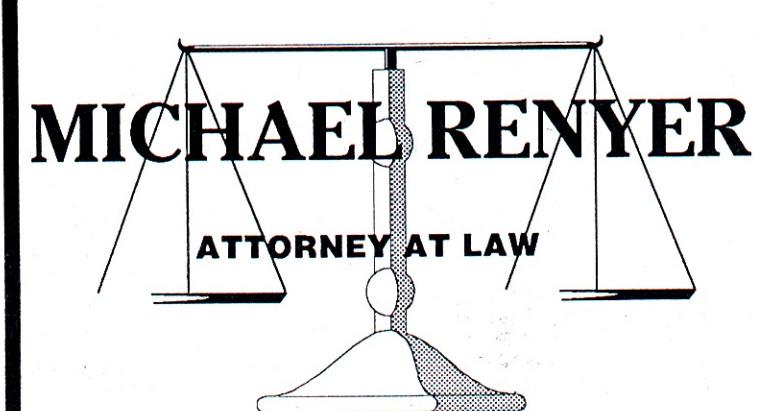
Robin Dibler
Peoria, Illinois

Writer looking for relatives

To The Editor:

I'm looking for relatives or any information on Melton James Teafartiller of Sulphur Oklahoma and Luciall Townson maybe in the Alice, Texas, area.

Clara Nell Cottrell
1319 Woodman Rd.
Canon City, CO 81212



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DUNCAN, OK 73533

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FAX (405) 255-0124

TRIBAL TRACTS



For A Good Cause

This team of Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe employees collected the second highest amount of money in the American Heart Walk held during Tecumseh's Frontier Days Sept. 15. Deputy Administrator Bob Trousdale (shown at right with his wife Cherie) led the team, which made the mile walk at 7:30 a.m. in a steady drizzle. The tribe's team raised \$1,169, a significant part of the \$6,700-plus total raised by the 140 participants. Trousdale, a heart bypass "survivor," and Cherie were the first chairmen of the three-year-old Tecumseh event.

Dallas performance group announces fall schedule

PIECES is proud to announce its fall 1995 performance schedule. The company's second show was presented Saturday, October 14, at 3 p.m. in the Showplace Theater at the State Fair of Texas; admission is free with fair ticket. An Evening of PIECES will be presented November 18 at 8 p.m. and November 19 at 2 p.m. and 9 p.m. at Danse En L'air, 9205 Skillman, \$123, Dallas. Admission is \$8 general admission and \$6 for members of Artists Helping Artists!, the Dallas Dance Council, Network 21, and S.T.A.G.E. when membership card is shown. For further information contact 214-601-9832.

PIECES was organized in April 1992 by tribal member J. Davis Hobdy to serve as a performance outlet for Dallas area dancers and choreographers. Hobdy received an honorable mention in Jazz

Dance from the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts in the Arts Recognition and Talent Search Competition while attending Arts Magnet High School.

After graduating from Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, he furthered his studies at North Carolina School of the Arts, Pennsylvania School of Ballet, and the University of Texas at Austin. Hobdy has performed with Ballet Dallas, Dancers Unlimited Repertory Company, Dance Detroit, Texas National Dance Theater, Ballet Austin's civic company, Kesheth Dancers of First United Methodist Church-Dallas, the Dance Consortium and in several industrial shows and videos.

Currently Hobdy is on staff at Danse En L'air and the Baylor Fitness Center.

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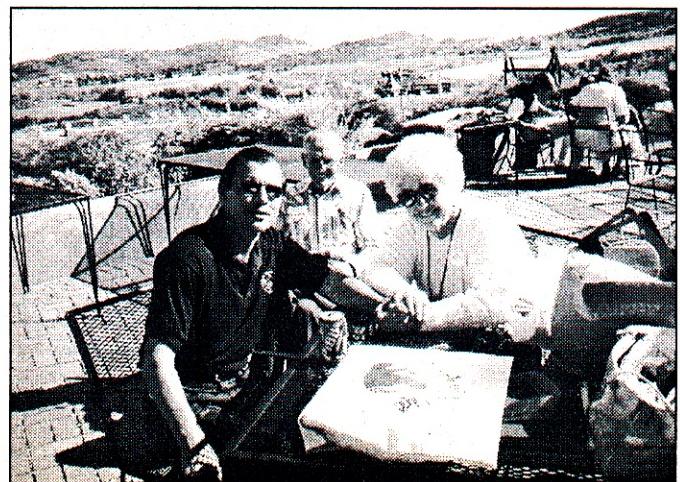
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Denver Regional Council, First of the New Series



A family portrait against a Colorado backdrop: From left, Nell Cottrell, Kay Konkel, Lela Acre, Martha Sue Taylor Finley and Penny Bishop pose at The Fort. Nell, Kay, Lela and Penny are sisters while Martha is a cousin. All are descendants of the LaReau family.



Potawatomi Tribal Administrator J.D. Colbert with Grace Doyle



Mike Wood, left, FireLake golf pro, was at his first regional. He's standing with Hilton Melot.

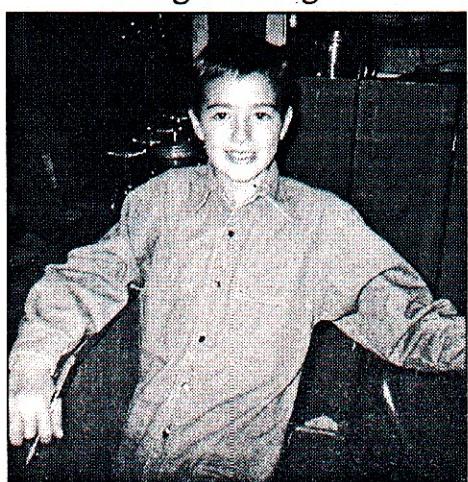


Door prizes, including first to register, went to Ron Striegel, Lela Acre and Paul Whitehead.

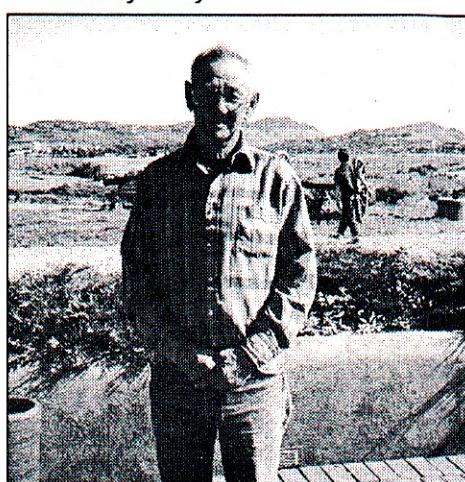


Committeeman J.P. Motley with relatives Barbara Pray and her son and granddaughter Rodney and Stacy Pray of Denver.

Chairman John A. Barrett Jr. smokes and blesses the wife of tribal member Paul Whitehead



Josh Lesher of Casper, Wyo., the son of Kathy and Keith Lesher



Sam McConnell, left picture, and Gladys Small, right picture, shared the distinction of being the wisest in attendance. They are 75.



Father John O'Connell, C.M., works with Kateri Catholic Indians

The Fort, Southwest Denver, October 7, 1995



Chairman John A. Barrett Jr. and Regional Coordinator Penny Bishop prepare to begin the meeting at The Fort.



Terri Schwiethale and sons Seth and Mac won the tepee made by Penny Bishop. They are relatives of Committeeman Hilton Melot.



Andy and Patsy Yott of Garden City, Kansas, traveled the longest distance — 330 miles.



Elizabeth Lindsey was a special guest. She's related to Oklahoma State Sen. Kelly Haney.



Youngest enrolled member Calvin Michael Bishop and his grandmother, Penny Bishop



Tribal member Debbie Galow of Aurora, Colo., visits with guest Shirley Livingston of Westminster, Colo.



Dot Spencer, June Blooding and Marilyn Schroeder investigate books detailing Potawatomi history while Dot's husband adds his own knowledge from years of research



Guests for the afternoon program at the Denver Regional Council were, left to right, Thomas Wind, Andy Cozed and Leonard Cozad, all of the Denver area.

REGIONAL REPORTS

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WASHINGTON

Bourzho from Seattle!

What a beautiful trip we had to Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin! There was much to do and a lot of neat things to see; the time was far too short.

There were 18,000 people in attendance at the Trail of Courage gathering in Rochester IN this year, a new record! I spoke both days about my family history, offering a few resources for doing research and sharing how my family was involved in the Trail of Death. Deb McPherson, a new cousin from New York; Leo Nadeau, my cousin from Kansas; and several members of the Bill Wamego family, cousins from Oklahoma, joined our daughter Rhian and me on the platform as we honored Chesaugan's descendants.

Approximately 100 people were in attendance at the dedication of the Trail of Death marker on the courthouse lawn in Rochester; this marker paid tribute to Chesaugan and Chief Wamego, and all who were removed from Indiana in September 1838. My heartfelt thanks to Shirley and Bill Willard and the Fulton County Historical Society for all their hard work hauling boulders, setting up the marker, and hosting all of us. And to Tom Hamilton for working on the wording and for his beautiful map, now a part of the monument in Rochester.

From Rochester, Eric and I drove to Grand Rapids, MI, dropping Rhian off in Kalamazoo with her friend Marie. The new public museum in Grand Rapids has a fantastic exhibit on the Anishnabe and we thoroughly enjoyed the two hours we spent there. I won't take the space to describe it but if you're interested, give me a call. There was a lot to see!

From Grand Rapids, we drove around through St. Joseph (and the Potawatomi Resort), through Chicago to Janesville, WI to see the white buffalo. Although it has turned colors and is now becoming a cinnamon (color #3), the power of that white buffalo is still overwhelming. Standing there you know that you are someplace sacred and that somehow through this small four-legged one something very special is taking place.

Our wanderings took us to the sites of several Potawatomi villages, now located only on old county maps. One of them we viewed by boat while on tour of Lake Tippecanoe as guests of Tom and Pat Hamilton, Citizen Band members. My thanks to them both for the relaxing visit.

We eventually ended up in Muncie IN where we attended an all-day genealogy workshop, gaining new insight to the work we'd been doing all along. We discovered a few new resources for research and Eric was able to copy the Michigan census records for 1710-1830, a real find! We're all represented there! I will be donating a copy to the archives if you're interested. Shirley and Bill Willard drove down to attend the workshop as did Virginia Pearl, who drove all the way from Kansas. They left that evening to prepare for the dedication of six new Trail of Death markers

that weekend.

Norman Kiker and John and Lu Ellis joined us for the Woodlands conference, which opened with a traditional pipe ceremony offered by Clarence Syrette, a Canadian Ojibwa. It was followed by a welcoming feast and a talk by Dr. S. David Edmunds on the Prophetstown experience including Potawatomi involvement. He is currently working on a book on Potawatomi entrepreneurs including the Bourassas and Vieuxs, following them from the Great Lakes to Kansas. I can't wait to see the finished copy!

Talks given over the two day conference ranged from the Carey Mission and the Choctaw Academy to burial customs of the Anishnabe, from a study of pre-1700s Great Lakes Ojibwa people to the spearfishing controversy in Wisconsin just a few years ago. In contrast, we used sparse moments of free time to visit the new Star Trek exhibit upstairs or to do research in the archives—or to just take a walk on the landscaped grounds, once the sacred site of the Miami tribe.

The White Thunder Singers, a Pokagon drum headed by John Warren, closed the conference with a mini-pow wow. Thanks to the loan of Lu's shawl, I was able to participate—and after a year recovering from torn ligaments it felt mighty good to be able to dance a couple of rounds before having to sit down. The stiffness of the next two days was a small price to pay for being able to be out in the circle again.

As usual it was hard to leave and come home. I'm still sorting through the papers we copied and collected, the maps we bought, and the wonderful books we found and transported home. Thank you for letting me have the time off to go.

I had a call from Yvonne Kolloren awhile back offering to host the 1996 Port Orchard picnic. She and her family will come over to camp with us the night before. We haven't chosen a date yet but it will be sometime mid-July. My thanks go to Yvonne and her family for their kind offer.

Would you be interested in an Anishnabe (Potawatomi/Ottawa/Ojibwa) group in the Seattle area? I had a call from Ken Jackson, whom some of you have heard at regional or our first picnic in Port Orchard. He has knowledge of some one who teaches Ojibwa locally and we might prevail upon him to teach us (I've been told that if you can understand Ojibwa it isn't too difficult to understand Potawatomi—and even to speak it). We could potluck and, if we could find teachers, learn some traditional crafts (I have a lead on a basketmaker). Let me know if you're interested and we'll see what we can get going.

I will close by sending my love and prayers to Joe Slavin following the death of his beloved wife Clara. They were on the Trail of Death trip with us in 1993 and attended the 1995 PowWow in Shawnee.

Walk gently,

Susan Campbell

NORTH TEXAS

Corpus Christi held by the Costal Bend Council of Native Americans. Another event of interest is the Third Annual Membership and Awards Banquet held by the American Indian Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, Nov. 2, at the D/FW Hyatt Regency Hotel.

It's been a busy and fruitful time for me this past month and I hope your Fall is bringing some times of reflection and progress to your life as well as victories for your favorite football team! We're doing okay here in Dallas with the Cowboys. Lu Ellis and I have had one conversation regarding next Spring's meeting, then she went off on what sounded like a great vacation. Plans will start taking shape soon. All we need from ya'll at this point is the time and place marked on your calendar—May 18, 1996, Austin, Texas.

Marjorie Hobdy

It's State Fair time here in Texas and on October 21-22 American Indian Days will be celebrated. Native American art, music, and dance are featured in the Creative Arts Building. Augilas (Two Eagles), an exhibit on native people who lived on the Texas-Mexico border from 1850-1900 will be on display at the Dallas Museum of Natural History in Fair Park. Hope you were able to attend the Fair at one time or another and see these exhibits.

The Annual American Indian Art Festival & Market will be October 27-29, 1995 in downtown Dallas and features 175 Native American artists from throughout the United States, stage performances, tribal foods, and Children's cultural activities. An outdoor exhibit of 36 tribal flags will be displayed along Flora St. from the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts to Artist Square, where the event takes place. There are pow wows taking place all over the state. Our children in Corpus Christi recently attended the one in

REGIONAL REPORTS

DENVER

Greetings from Denver,

By the time this issue of the HowNiKan reaches your home the 1995 Denver Regional Meeting will be history. With that thought in mind, I would like to share my thoughts on "power and energy."

During the middle of September, we had our first snow of the season. Seventy-five percent of the Denver metro area was without power, some folks for a short time, the rest of us for several days. Mine was out from Wednesday evening through Sunday morning.

At the time, I must admit, I was perturbed at the inconvenience of no electricity. As the new director, I wanted to do a good job, but knowing that I had a six-month project to complete in six weeks, I was really in a "tizzy." The first couple of days without power was kind of fun. We managed nicely with candles, kerosene lamps, and the fireplace. My oldest son loaned us his camp stove to cook on. We read and played cards, talked and retired earlier than usual. I thought a lot about what needed to be done for our regional.

The telephone worked, so I was able to call for "help." My "helpers" knew that once the power was back on, we would

Regional Council Schedule

This is the schedule for the remainder of the Regional Councils during the 1995-96 year:

Phoenix	Jan. 20, 1996
Southern California	Feb. 17, 1996
Kansas City.....	March 9
Merced, Calif.	March 30
Seattle	April 20
Eugene, Ore.	April 21
Austin, Texas	May 18

The annual Council in Shawnee will be June 29. The Pow Wow will begin on June 28 and run through June 30.

be swamped with things to do.

My family was wonderful to help and encourage. Lorrie, Misty, Joe, and John helped gather and enter material on the computer, along with helping my sister Lela take up the extra slack. My other

sisters and cousins David, Kenneth, and Marion called regularly with suggestions, and encouragement. My friends and family in Denver, Marlene, Sandra, and Lilly, helped gather gifts, dancers, do layouts, and give support.

My friends and family at the tribal complex in Shawnee, Joie, Mary, Esther, Carolyn and Bob helped update addresses, tribal rolls, gather historical data, confirm decisions and give buckets of praise.

Thanks to our Chairman Mr. Barrett, and the entire Business Committee, for their encouragement and faith.

Thanks to all our Tribal Members who live in the Denver region who came to this year's meeting, from Garden City, Kansas, to Glenrock, Wyoming. So many familiar faces, and lots of new ones too. You are all so wonderful.

You may think at this point, "she has really gotten off the subject of power and energy." Not so! The "power and energy" of all these people made it possible for me to perform beyond the limit of normal accomplishments. Their strength and unity is unbelievable.

When you combine "power and energy" with faith, family, tribal family and teamwork. Success is the ultimate goal.

Thank you all for your power and energy. You have given me light.

Until next time, peace, power and energy be with you all.

Penny Bishop

OREGON/IDAHO

Bourzho from Oregon/Idaho,

What happened to September? Time has just passed so quickly this past year. Fall is upon us in full color, the children are in school and it is time for the high school seniors, who are thinking of college, to apply for scholarships or grants. There are lots of them out there, but you must write for the applications and you must start early. If I can give parents any advice it would be: START EARLY! and START NOW! Also, when you do your taxes this January, make lots of copies as they all ask for copies of your parents' income taxes. Call the office here at 1-800-522-3744 for places to apply or check with the counselors at the college you plan to attend.

Does your child need tutoring? The Johnson O'Malley program or JOM can provide help if your child is a card carrying Indian and their school has signed up with JOM.

What is JTPA?? JTPA stands for Job Training Partnership Act. The Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians JTPA Program in the Salem Area Office is available for Native Americans, Alaskan Natives and Native Hawaiians, and are residents of Marion, Polk, and Yamhill Counties. Call the office if you live elsewhere in Oregon.

If a participant is determined eligible for the program, JTPA can provide On the Job Training (OJT), Work Experience (WE), Classroom Training (CRT) and Job Search Assistance.

Interested individuals should attend an orientation, then schedule an appointment to complete a JTPA intake. The Salem Area Office schedules the orientations on Tuesdays at 9 am. Drop ins are welcome as long as space allows. Orientations are approximately one and a half hours to two hours in length, so please plan on enough time to complete the orientation. If you have questions please call Randy Butler, Salem Area JTPA counselor, or Marietta Cook, Salem Area JTPA Assistant.

Oct. 1 was the Grants Pass Pow Wow at Merlin, Oregon. I hope some of our members from the south part of Oregon made it there as I was out in the woods hunting that big buck. Well, it was pretty good. A three point. I hope I will be able to see a lot of you at the pow wow in Rickreal. Then as we get deeper into winter, the pow wows are fewer. But I will keep you posted.

Megwetch

Rocky Baptiste

That all people may be one people, send rain to wash the face of the earth. - Chief Joseph

SOUTH TEXAS

Bourzho!

Autumn in Southeast Texas was beautiful. All three days of it! Now it is summer again.

We had the good fortune to be able to go to Indiana in September. There the trees were stunning, just beginning to turn to red and gold, and back dropped with all the greens our Mother Nature presents to us. It was a good trip. We met some beautiful people too.

Now we are home and I am trying to concentrate on making some art. We had so much fun this summer, with pow wows and the Summer Youth Camp, and the trip up north, that I am not in a work mode yet! I'll get there though.

I hope your summer was great, and you have all the children back in school and in good health and you are looking forward to Giving Thanks as we proceed into the season.

We as Indian people do have much to be thankful for. In spite of the proposed cutbacks in Congress, the storms and strife of everyday life, the battles we do for health and prosperity, we have each other. We have all these precious elders, and the wisdom they have to offer. We have all these beautiful children, and the opportunity to teach them in a good way who they are. We have Tribe, Family, and time is on our side, still.

I keep asking Grandfather to make the Language come alive again. The language holds our past, our traditions, our culture, in ways we can never learn in English. I know it is going to come, as surely as nightfall follows day. I ask Grandfather for the ability to learn, so I can share. Help me in that, with your work and your prayers?

We will all meet in Austin next May, on the 18th, for Council. The North and Southeast Texas Councils will meet there, together for the first time. We hope it will be easier for those of you in the west to come and join us. It is never too early to make plans to be there. We will let you know as time passes, where, and what special things will occur.

Have a good Giving Thanks feast, give something back to Mother Earth. She gives us everything.

Megwetch,

Lu Ellis

Minnestrista Council

REGIONAL REPORTS

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Bourzho From Merced!

This past month was busy with the highlight of the month being the "Gathering of Potawatomi Nations" in Mayetta, Kansas. There were an estimated 1500 Potawatomi from all seven bands at the gathering. Bus loads and van loads came from the bands. This included the Potawatomi Nation in Canada, the Huron Band from Michigan, the Pokagon Band from Indiana/Michigan, the Hannaville Band from Michigan, the Forest County Potawatomi from Wisconsin, the Prairie Band in Kansas and our Citizen Band.

The Prairie Band hosted the gathering with a beautiful new pow wow ground along two ponds with many camping and visiting, finding family ties among all the bands. Each band was honored with a dance with George Godfrey standing tall for the Citizen Band along with 5 or 6 others. Some of our tribal members came from Oklahoma, while others came from as far as Washington, D.C. I had a wonderful time meeting and visiting with all. I met many who live in Kansas and who promised to attend our Pow Wow in June.

An "Eagle Staff" with feathers from each of the seven bands was made by Billy Daniels from Forest County and was dedicated to the Potawatomi Nation. This was taken to Washington, D.C. by Joe Winchester, the Pokagon chairman, for the budget hearings. It will then go to the

Hannaville Band to be kept this next year as the gathering next year will be in Hannaville.

Much of our culture and history was shared and open invitations by all to visit each other. I would encourage each of you to consider this gathering next year. It was wonderful as those Potawatomi from the North began to discover that some of the same family origins that comprised those of the Citizen Band were relative of theirs also. As I write this article, I sit at the home of the Executive Director, Stewart King, in Parry Sound, Ontario. To visit Turtle Island and those places first seen by our ancestors is truly an experience. I'll write more on this trip next month.

The Labor Day Pow Wow in Three Rivers, California was enjoyable. As we enter the fall and winter season I would encourage all to still the mind and listen to the heart. Remember our Council and Administrators in your quiet time and give thanks for our successes as the government cutbacks in programs and education include the BIA also. Give thanks for the continued growth of our band and its business enterprises.

Remember our Regional Council Meeting is in March 1996 and plan now to attend. Until next month ...

Megwetch, *Gary Bibb*

1997 Woodlands Conference slated to be held in Shawnee

By Susan Campbell, Tribal Representative

Minnestrista Council was called to order on September 29, 1995 and opened with a prayer offered by Richard Snake, chief of the Delawares. The minutes were read and approved.

A report was given on the attendance of the 1995 Woodlands workshops which were offered in June. Enrollment for the week reached 208 maximum for the classes. The weekend Pow Wow brought in 3500 people. Next year's workshops and PowWow are scheduled to take place June 16-24, the dates being set to accommodate the Citizen Band Potawatomi.

It was moved and seconded hold the 1996 Woodlands conferences at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio based on a request received from them. The theme of next year's conference will be Creation Stories of the Great Lakes Peoples, chosen to show the similarities in creation stories amongst the various tribes. It is hoped that over the next few years we can move the stories forward and continue to show the similarities among the stories of the Woodlands people.

It was then moved and seconded that, based on an invitation from John Barrett of the Citizen Band Potawatomi, the 1997 conference would be held in Shawnee, OK. This was approved unanimously.

It was determined that Dr. David Edmunds, Greg Ballew of the Pokagon Band Potawatomi, and Dr. Mike Shinkel and his wife Linda will serve as a committee to arrange the 1996 conference, with the first meeting to be held November 11.

Nick Clark announced his resignation from Minnestrista Council and his acceptance of a new position as Director of the Prophetstown State Park Foundation. A press conference was held to announce this move. Nick will begin work October 16. He will be living on-site at Prophetstown while working from an office in Lafayette, IN.

The impact of this move came under much discussion. Minnestrista Council will, over the course of the next one or two years, move from Muncie IN to Lafayette. The mailing list, archives and newsletter will move as well, with the full support of Minnetrista. The exhibit "The People of the Turtle," now on tour, will eventually arrive for display at the Prophetstown Indian Center. Prophetstown State park Foundation applied for IRS incorporation as a non-profit group in July 1995. It will be run by a board of 21 members, including representatives from Minnetrista Council, citizens of Lafayette, and representatives from the parks department. Lora Siders, secretary of the Miami; Greg Ballew, Pokagon Potawatomi; and Seline Phillips, Lac du Flambeau; will serve as the Minnetrista representatives.

The STate of Indiana has appropriated \$3.1 million for the purchase of land for the park. 360 acres have already been purchased. It was noted that with this move, Minnetrista Council will be renamed and a new logo will be designed to portray the change.

The non-invasive archaeological dig is scheduled for the last week of October and the first week of November. Currently the land to be studied hosts a ripening corn crop and work cannot proceed. Proceeds from this harvest will go toward Prophetstown State Park.

A proposal made by John Barrett of the Citizen Band Potawatomi was presented by Susan Campbell to the council. Mr. Barrett requests that a portion of the land set aside for the park project be deeded, in trust, to each individual tribe for its use as a sacred site or as a memorial to its people who perished there. It was noted that since the state is purchasing the land with a 99-year lease to the Indian Center, to be extended upon expiration, ownership would probably not work out. It was suggested that a sub-lease situation could work. The council determined it was too early in the project to make a decision on this issue but Greg Ballew stated that the idea should be seriously considered and requested it be included as a planning item for further discussion.

It was decided that with the advent of winter, the council should wait until the spring meeting to make any further decisions regarding the Prophetstown project. Nick requested that all members consider carefully what we are about to undertake and to contact him with any questions and concerns during the next few months. He also asked us to seek out ideas for the project and to share input with him and the council. One of the Next considerations will be locating and hiring an architect to design the new Indian Center, the heart of the Prophetstown Park. It is desired that this person be of Native American descent. It is hoped that he might be a member of a represented tribe or band. Dr. Mike Shinkel reported that he had been contacted by representatives of five of our council members offering their support for the new PSPF. Greg reported that NAGPRA has set up a list of dates for consulting with the Potawatomi Bands regarding repatriation issues. Bands have been contacted directly.

With no further items for discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Bouzho from Pasadena!

Last month I asked for your input regarding the next Southern California Regional Council meeting, currently scheduled for February 17th.

The silence has been deafening.

Being a positive sort of person, and not easily offended, I take that to be resounding approbation of my ability to choose a location and set the menu. Thanks for your confidence.

Still, if any of you have a drum group or dancers you'd like to see featured, or perhaps have an idea for alternate entertainment, let me know here at the Regional office. You are always encouraged to participate in the planning and implementation of your Regional Council meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

University of Southern California School of Medicine invites you to "Strengthen the Circle of Life" by becoming a physician assistant. Info: (213) 342-1328 or write to 1975 Zonal Av, KAM B-29, L.A. 90033

Southern California Indian Center's legal assistance project is soliciting phone inquiries and offering consultation regarding family law, landlord/tenant issues, bankruptcy problems and injury related matters. Info: (714) 530-0221 or (213) 387-5772

Red Road Learning Centers is offering free classes on Monday and Wednesday nights in North Hollywood from 6:30-9 p.m. Info: (805)

492-4447 (Bob Night Hawk) or (818) 752-4008 (Brad Two Bears) or (805) 482-1025 (Charley Stands Alone)

And a Few Reminders

Medical services are provided at the United American Indian Involvement the last Wednesday of each month. Call Mary Dickerson or Lenora Antore at (310) 920-7227

University of California Riverside has a Native American radio show every Thursday from 5 - 6 p.m. on station KUCR, FM 88.3 For more information, call Earl Sisto at (909) 787-4143

The LA Department of Health Services - Health and Faith Project provides training and technical assistance to American Indian religious organizations. For more information, call Danielle Glenn-Rivera at (213) 387-7810

The Southern California Indian Center has a program for American Indian Elders/Senior Citizens the SCIC TRIPLE AAA ELDERS PROGRAM in Los Angeles. Call (800) 262-6575

Strengthened by the knowledge of our history, may each of your hearts be filled with reverence for those who came before, with love for our brothers and sisters, and with hope for those who will follow. And may everyone we meet know at a glance how proud we are to be Potawatomi!

Megwetch,

Jeremy Bertrand Finch

POTAWATOMI SCRAPBOOK

‘A miracle from God’

Potawatomi heritage brings father, daughter together

To The Editor:

I am enclosing a story about an incredible event that took place in our family recently. It never would have happened had it not been for my husband Robert G. Bogle's Potawatomi heritage. Due to his being on the roll, his long-lost daughter was able to locate him. He had not seen or heard from her in over 40 years, not since she was about a year and half old when her mother left with her and another man for parts unknown.

It's a heart-warming and spiritually uplifting story, which we have related to many of our customers at our place of business. Since it brought such good feelings to our family and others we have shared it with, we felt you might be interested in sharing it with others too. So feel free to put any or all of the story in the *HowNiKan* paper; in fact, we would be very pleased if you would.

Thank you very much,

Joan Bogle

Arroyo Grande, California

In June 1995 our family had the most incredible event occur in our lives — a truly miraculous gift from God!

It all started when our son Bob Jr. invited his dad Bob Sr. to an Indian sweat lodge ceremony out in the country in Arroyo Grande. He was taking his son Ryan also and said this was a great honor, very "big medicine" to have three generations of one family at the same sweat lodge ceremony.

During a sweat lodge there is a lot of prayer and ceremony, then each person involved goes into this structure that is completely dark and sealed from the outside. First an eagle's wing was brought in, then hot rocks are carried in and water is poured over them to make steam and as it grows hotter and hotter, each person in turn speaks his prayer or whatever he wishes to share with the group.

When each one has had his turn, the first round is over. Before going into the tent Bob Sr. hung his earth stone necklace on a branch placed between the tent flap and the fir, where it would receive the blessings of the spirits. While inside the tent Bob had an intense experience of flying or being above the earth looking down at the fields and having an immense feeling of FREEDOM. This had been his prayer, to be freed, just to be FREE! No directions to God to tell him how to do it, just let go and let him do his thing. No formal prayers from childhood, just God, do for me what you already know I need.

One Sunday morning about a month or so later, we were having a cup of coffee when the phone rang. A woman on the line asked to talk to Bob. Since he has a hearing problem I usually intercept all his phone calls. Well, this woman would not be put off, and finally she insisted on talking to Bob, saying she could put him in touch with his daughter Linda if he wanted! I immediately told him to get on his best hearing aid and come to the phone right away, as someone wanted to put him in touch with his long-lost daughter! You see, my husband had been married once before he and I got married.

This time was 1951. They were very young and just before he went into the Army during the Korean war, he and "Gypsy" were married and in short order she be-

came pregnant. Then Bob was sent overseas to Germany. Soon their baby girl Linda was born, in January 1952. Apparently Gypsy became involved with another man while Bob was in Germany. He had been receiving "Dear John" type letters for some time when he applied for and got an emergency leave and came home early. Then things changed and he thought the relationship was going back on track, until one day he went to the mail box and found a love letter to Gypsy from a sailor.

These were two young people, neither blameless, but at this point their relationship fell apart fast and a divorce followed. After the divorce Bob would come to the apartment to visit his daughter Linda, until one day he arrived and there was no one there! His ex-wife and daughter had disappeared. The apartment manager said they had left with a man, leaving no forwarding address.

Being young, and with no resources, from that day forward Bob had no contact with his beautiful little daughter Linda, who was just a bit over a year and one half old. Many times over the years to come, during our nearly 40 years of marriage, we would talk and wonder whatever happened to Linda, where she was, even IF she was. It was very painful to think or talk about. Our sons knew they had a sister "out there somewhere," but none of us had any idea we would ever see her. But now finally, THIS, a miracle had happened!

Bob got on the phone and spoke with Eva, a close friend of Linda's. She said Linda didn't want to be the one to make the first contact as she had no idea how she would be received. Eva told him he had a very beautiful daughter, and she was ecstatic when she heard how happy Bob was to FINALLY be able to get in touch with Linda at long last. Eva gave him Linda's phone number at work since she was in the process of moving. It was Sunday, so he could not call until Monday morning, probably the longest 24 hours in his life. When he did call he heard his daughter's voice for the first time — on her answering machine!

"This is Linda Bogle. I'm taking a one day holiday from work; just leave your name and number and I'll call you back." Well, Bob said, "This is your father, and I love you. You can call me tomorrow at work at this number." We could hardly wait for the phone to ring on Tuesday morning. When it finally did, I got to hear Linda's lovely voice and was so happy. Then I gave the phone to Bob. Because of his hearing problem he couldn't talk with Linda for very long due to all the noise at the shop. So frustrating!

They made arrangement to talk at home on Saturday morning. This was the slowest moving week in history. Finally 10 a.m. Saturday morning arrived and the long-awaited call happened. Both Bob and Linda were so happy to finally be speaking to each other. The first thing Bob wanted to know was HOW had she found him. It seems that several weeks previously she had decided to take a vacation and just opened a travel magazine and saw a canoe trip on the Colorado River advertised.

Even though she had never been on this type of vacation before, especially alone as she would be going this time, for some unknown reason she decided to "go for it!" Shortly after she arrived at the Colorado River she met a woman from Chicago who worked for the Department of Indian Affairs. As they became acquainted she began telling her about her real father, Bob being part Potawatomi Indian and how she had wanted for many years to find him. Information had not been forthcoming from her step-dad or her mother until just recently, when she had "sat her mother down and made her tell every-

thing she could possibly remember about her real Dad."

That was when Linda found out she was part Potawatomi Indian. The woman said she had connections and if Bob was on the Indian roll anywhere, she could find him. Well, Bob is on the Potawatomi Indian role in Shawnee, Oklahoma and soon she did find him! All these events happened shortly after one day when Linda went into a favorite religious book store for a gift. As she walked in, the very first thing she saw was this beautiful coffee mug that had printed on it in fancy script twined with ivy, "FATHER, A GIFT OF LOVE FROM GOD."

Linda immediately thought of Bob, her real dad, not her stepfather. She didn't purchase the cup because she thought she would never in this lifetime be able to give it to him. A week or so later she returned to the same store and purchased something and when her cash register receipt was rung up it showed a star on it. The clerk said she had won a prize and to pick a number. She did, and the prize she won was that very same coffee mug — "FATHER, A GIFT OF LOVE FROM GOD!" It was after this event Linda asked her mom for all the information she would remember about Bob.

One of the first things Linda told Bob about her vacation to the Colorado River was her feeling of FREEDOM that she experienced while she was there! Bob asked her when the vacation had occurred. Linda said May the 9th. Then Bob said, "Just wait 'til you hear what I have to share with you!"

"That intense feeling of FREEDOM that I experienced at the Indian Sweat Lodge Ceremony occurred incredibly, just two days earlier on May 7th!" What a wonderful miraculous gift! Two souls searching for FREEDOM and they found each other in the process. What a blessing from God! Bob said if he ever had any doubts about the existence of a Higher Power, he certainly has none now!

After the phone conversation between Bob and Linda, we were all excited. She told him she had some vacation time due from work and would be able to come up to our house for a visit during the week of the July 4th holiday. We immediately began making preparations for a big family gathering on July 4th. We have a large deck behind our house and if the weather cooperates, we figured it would be an ideal place for a large gathering as this was sure to be. In the meantime a package arrived for Bob just the day before Fathers Day. It was from Linda, and contained quite a number of pictures of her from early childhood up to the present time, including the last one, a picture taken of her on her Colorado River canoe trip.

She also included a beautiful Father's Day card, her very first one to her dad. On it she wrote a touching note to Bob, saying she had thought of him on so many Father's Days before but never dreamed she would actually be talking to her real father someday. "This card is long overdue!" We poured over the pictures many, many times at home, with our boys and their families, with our customers at work. Everyone we related this astonishing story to was moved, many to tears, tears of joy. All of us have shed many of those joyful tears. This seems to be too incredible to be real, almost like a dream. Something you read or hear about but never believe you will actually experience.

When Sunday July 3rd arrived we were all on proverbial pins and needles waiting for Linda to arrive. Finally it was 6 p.m. and there she was at long last, this beautiful, tall, darkhaired girl walking up the stairs and into our hearts.

The End (... but really just the beginning!)

INDIAN COUNTRY NEWS

(From *Oklahoma Indian Times*, October 1995) — On September 14, 1995, in excess of 75 armed FBI agents, U.S. Marshall Service and the Oklahoma State Highway Patrol converged on the Eastern Shawnee Tribal Complex to serve federal search and seizure warrants. The object of these warrants were 55 video pull tab dispensing machines owned by the Tribe along with all Tribal records relating to these machines. The raid, executed at the direction of Mr. Steve Lewis, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Oklahoma, was described by the tribe as "both unnecessary and unjustified."

"There was nobody here in the bingo hall except for the concession guy who was getting his area ready," said Danny Captain, hall manager and first council person for the tribe. "They came in with guns drawn. He was told to hit the floor on his face."

Laura Wald, the community service coordinator, was the only one in the administration building when they arrived. "The whole building filled up with them quickly, hats, guns and everything," said Wald, "Pow-wow campers even saw them in the hills [behind the complex]."

Betty Captain, wife of the Eastern Shawnee Chief, was crossing the parking lot with her infant granddaughter, and said she was "afraid for the safety of both of them."

In February, the tribe received a letter from Lewis telling the tribe to either cease and desist with the device or take it to a court and get the new game classified. Lewis maintained the new game was a Class 3 device, not a Class 2 game for which the tribe is licensed.

According to Chief George Captain, Mr. Lewis was advised prior to putting the video pull tab machines into operation with their intentions. He was further invited to inspect them for purposes of rendering an opinion as to their legality but Mr. Lewis declined this invitation. The Tribe put the machines into play on January 11, 1995. According to the Tribe, Mr. Lewis sent a letter threatening legal action if they continued to play the machines. In response, the tribe immediately ceased operation of the machines and pursued legal action to obtain a court declaration regarding their legal status.

"We had a ruling from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Court at Miami, Oklahoma on July 7, that these machines were legal under federal and tribal gaming laws," said Jack Ross, tribal gaming commissioner. The U.S. attorney said it was not the court of proper jurisdiction.

"I think we are caught between two courts," said Chief Captain. "We won a right to use the machines through the CFR Court. The District court feels they have more power - causing contention. We are caught in the middle."

The following Monday, after the raid, bounced checks began to be returned to the tribe. According to Danny Captain,

Mr. Lewis had issued a freeze on their account the day of the raid with no official notification given to the tribe. "The letter was written to our bank from Mr. Lewis giving a lawful order to freeze the account. There is no court order on this," said Captain.

In a statement that Monday afternoon, Jack Ross, tribal gaming commissioner, termed the action "economic genocide, because it puts a complete stop to virtually all our social service for tribal members, and the very government of the tribe itself."

But, Tribal leaders and one of their attorneys, Jess Green, went to their bank and secured release of the funds. "Our attorney told them without the court order, they couldn't hold the money," said Captain. "He said if they didn't

release the funds they would be held liable and we'd sue. We walked out of the bank with our money."

Now the tribe is trying to do business without checks and a checking account by using a total cash operation. "We are down to working out of our hip pocket," said Captain.

Terming both the raid last week and the freezing of tribal accounts "an excessive economic abuse of power" by Lewis, Ross said the tribe would contact U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno and President Clinton about Lewis's actions.

"They need to know what this man is doing and what effects it could have on a lot of people they're sworn to protect and serve," Ross said. "The bingo hall is our only source of revenue, and we use that money to fund our vision clinic,

some medical prescription help or tribal members, tuition and books for students, a supplement for our senior nutrition program, some of our emergency housing programs, and a lot of other social services. We may not even be able to pay our attorneys."

In an article by the *Joplin Globe*, Lewis said the tribe's bingo and administrative accounts were frozen "because that's what you do during an investigation of this type, in which some assets may be forfeited."

"Ask Lewis if they froze all accounts," said Captain. "We were one of 27 businesses raided, and we were the only ones who had accounts frozen." Lewis was not available for comment Tuesday.

Iowa Tribe plans cultural museum in Missouri homeland

(From *Bah-Kho-Je Journal*, September 1995) — PRINCETON, MO. — The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma has purchased a building for historical preservation office and also plans a new cultural museum here, the tribe's chairman said Wednesday.

Lawrence P. Murray, 67, of Perkins, Okla., said his tribe, which left the area about 100 years ago, has purchased the old Leo Ellis Memorial American Legion Hall.

"We've made a start," Murray said. "We're looking forward to working with the good people of Mercer County."

Murray came to the area with other tribal officials to formally begin a cultural project that will include the interment of Iowa remains at an undisclosed area in the county.

The burial project anticipates implementation of the Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act, a federal law that requires museums and other institutions to provide to tribes detailed inventories of Native American

remains and artifacts. The inventory lists must be sent to the tribes by mid-November 1995.

After a process of cultural verification of items, tribes will receive from the institutions remains and artifacts. The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma has received in a donation about five acres in Mercer County that will serve as a burial site for the remains. The number of remains to be buried is not known but estimated to be between 1,800 and 2,200, tribal officials said.

"We're also shooting for a cultural museum using mostly government grants," Murray said. "That would be a

separate facility."

Murray also announced the opening of a fund at the Citizens Bank in Princeton. The fund is designed to provide money in three categories:

- Restoration of the old American Legion Hall into a historical preservation office.
- Planning and construction of the cultural museum.
- Purchase of additional land to protect culturally sensitive areas.

Donations can be sent to the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Office of Historic Preservation, P.O. Box 254, Princeton, MO, 64673.

Indian Cultural Society seeks new members

The American Indian Cultural Society is a nonprofit, intertribal organization dedicated to the preservation of American Indian heritage and culture. It was established in 1991.

AICS meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Tribes Gallery, 307 East Main Street, Norman. Membership in AICS is open to anyone interested in pursuing the goals of the organization. Dues are \$12 per year.

About 20 tribes are represented in the growing membership and president Effie Tee is especially interested in getting in touch with American Indians who are new to the area. Members of the group participate in pow wows, gourd dances, lectures, demonstrations and community activities. A few non-Indian members are active in its programs.

For information call 321-8070 in the evenings.



New Enterprise Directors

Ron Everett, left, was recently promoted to manager of FireLake Lane, the tribe's new bowling center, replacing Stan Raymer. Everett has been employed at the center since before its opening earlier this year. Willie Mocabee, right, was recently named manager of FireLake Restaurant, replacing Vernon Houck. Mocabee, who has a background in wholesale food sales and other areas, has slowly been updating the menu and making other changes at the popular restaurant located above FireLake Golf Course. Tribal members are invited to stop by and introduce themselves to the two men.



Homecoming Queen

Tribal member Crystal Powell, standing at right, was crowned Tecumseh High School Homecoming Queen at ceremonies Sept. 22 before the Tecumseh game with Harrah. She is pictured with her escort, Todd Folks, crownbearer David Nolen and flower girl Susan Williams. Powell is related to Business Committeeman Hilton Melot and is a senior at THS.

Regional councils bring tribal business to far-away members

Continued from page 1

people" if elected. The Denver meeting was the first step in keeping that promise to the Potawatomi people.

In the past decade, tribal officials have traveled many thousands of miles to meet Potawatomi people in their own parts of the world, particularly in the western half of the United States where most of them live. Regional Councils have been held in Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Oregon, Texas and Washington. They've been held indoors and out, with elaborate buffet meals and with casual picnic fare.

Sometimes there was a slide show, other times it was an outdoor dance exhibition. Programs have included Potawatomi language experts, authors of tribal history, storytellers, craftspeople and much more.

But always the Business Committee reports on the business of the tribe, telling its members how their money is being spent and what plans are in store.

And always there is the emphasis on family. Chairman Barrett traditionally begins the meeting with a "roll call" of Potawatomi family names, asking those present to raise their hands so their relatives will see where they're seated and be able to find them later. The "wisest" tribal member is honored, as is the youngest and the one who comes the farthest. Babies are kissed, hands are shaken, notes taken.

Meanwhile, T-shirts and caps leave Esther Lowden's booth and go home with happy purchasers. Children play, relatives visit, Business Committee members answer questions. It is much more than a

free meal; it is indeed a family reunion combined with a "town hall" meeting with your government. It is the perfect opportunity for those who don't know much about their tribe to find out more, and to go one-on-one with their elected representatives.

No fancy clothes are required; tribal members come in whatever is comfortable. And children are not only allowed, they are encouraged to come. "After all, that's what it's all about," said Barrett. "Our purpose at these meetings is to continue to enrich our heritage so our young people will love it and want to be a part of it." In fact, Barrett has said frequently over the last ten years that he would like to work toward a form of tribal government which would allow elected regional representatives to conduct the tribe's busi-

ness through satellite meetings.

Another step toward that dream came four years ago, in September 1991, when the first Regional Office opened in Dallas, Texas. Offices were added gradually as Representatives were recruited, and in April 1992, the *HowNiKan* began carrying Regional Reports from them each month. There are now nine regional offices and representatives providing tribal members with a link to tribal headquarters in Shawnee.

The 1995-96 Regional Council meeting schedule is printed along with the regional reports elsewhere in this newspaper. Near that is the directory of Regional Representatives. For more information on the Regional Council nearest you, contact one of them or call tribal headquarters in Shawnee.

Anti-Indian fever at acute levels in hall of U.S. Congress this year



FROM THE
ADMINISTRATOR

By J.D. Colbert

Earlier this year, I wrote in this column of what the new 104th Congress could portend for Indian Country. Since that time it seems that our worst fears may be realized. The Republican-controlled Congress is clearly experiencing another bout of anti-Indian fever of such an acute severity not seen since the heyday of the termination era.

As expressed in several pieces of proposed legislation, it would appear as though Indians have become the favorite congressional whipping boys for what ails America. This is manifested in two particularly troublesome proposals. The first relates to the 1996 fiscal year BIA budget and the second to taxation of Indian gaming operations. Taken together, these two measures can best be described as "Termination with a Human Face."

H.R. 1977 is the congressional bill which provides the 1996 funding for the Department of the Interior and related agencies, including the BIA. This bill originally provided for only a three percent cut in the BIA budget. However, upon reaching the Senate, funding was reduced by \$270 million, or by 16 percent.

This crippling cut was spearheaded by Sen. Slade Gordon (R-WA) who can be construed as a modern day "Indian fighter." As attorney general of Washington state, Sen. Gordon fought many pitched battles with the various Indian tribes of that state. In that capacity he lost several important cases, including those regarding Indian natural resources issues. He is now apparently using his authority as a U.S. senator and committee chairman to settle old scores. Section 115 of the Senate bill singles out tribes in Washington state for especially severe

budget cuts.

Recently, a congressional conference committee restored some \$86 million to the BIA budget. Even with this restoration, however, the Bureau still faces a budget reduction of some \$190 million. Of particular concern is the fact that most of this cut is in the area of Tribal Priority Allocations. TPA represents direct funding for essential tribal government operations such as law enforcement, fire protection, education, housing and natural resource management. A budget reduction of the proposed magnitude will effectively curtail the delivery of these essential services to many tribal members.

The Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1995 contains a provision to enact a federal tax on tribal gaming operations. This proposal has already passed the House Ways and Means Committee and is now being considered by the Senate Finance committee. If ap-

proved, this provision would not only break with a long standing precedent of treating Indian tribes as "nontaxable entities" but would also violate tribal sovereignty. It would also represent yet another abrogation by the federal government of their promises to Indian people as contained in numerous treaties and agreements. Finally, the proposed tax is highly discriminatory in that it will not apply to state lotteries and other governmental forms of gaming.

Taken together, the budget reductions and gaming tax will not only cripple tribal governments but may cause many of the smaller tribes to effectively cease operations. In a putative era of Indian tribal self-determination and at a time in which many tribes are attempting to achieve self-sufficiency, these proposals can only be deemed as a direct blow to tribal sovereignty and should be vigorously opposed.

DONATIONS TO THE *HowNiKAN*

Dan Sloan, OK - \$20
Deanna Neves, CO - \$10
Robin Taylor, HI - \$15
David L. & Janice K. Spalding, KS - \$20
Merton & Frances Whitlow, OK - \$25